



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 27, 2009

## **MAYOR JERRY SANDERS**

### **FACT SHEET**

## **WATER USE DOWN BY 14 PERCENT CITYWIDE**

*Mayor Applauds San Diegans, Urges Continued Conservation in Dry Fall Months*

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that San Diegans had heeded urgent calls to conserve water during a time of tight supplies, with residential customers cutting their water use by 15.4 percent from July 2008 to July 2009, and consumption citywide down 13.9 percent during that same period.

On June 1, San Diego implemented the most comprehensive water-conservation requirements ever established for the city, limiting the time and days for lawn watering, requiring leak repairs and other water-saving measures to avoid serious shortages.

The mayor said San Diegans have shown they are up to the challenge.

“Tight water supplies have forced all of us to change the way we use water around our homes and yards – which means breaking some pretty ingrained habits,” Sanders said. “It’s clear that San Diegans are getting the message that small changes to water-use habits can add up to big savings, and they should be proud of the results of their conservation efforts.”

Sanders also applauded city departments for leading by example; water use by the city is down 19 percent since July 2008, he said. Use of water for irrigation is down 24.4 percent citywide, while consumption by the city’s commercial and industrial users decreased by 6 percent during the July-July period.

“We’re on the right track and showing we can use water efficiently and responsibly,” Sanders said. “We need to keep the momentum through the dry fall months.”

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